

John Rhea to Andrew Jackson, February 10, 1822, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

JOHN RHEA TO JACKSON.

Washington, February 10, 1822.

. . . . The Speaker of the House of representatives,¹ received a letter from you—he shewed it to me—he has written to you respecting it, and I agree with him in opinion, that it is better not to lay it before the House—the last paragraph of it is rather warm and seems to reflect. if you have a copy of that letter, write all of it except the last paragraph, and then send it to the Speaker of the House, not as a copy but as an original. I now wish that your resignation of the Govt. of Florida, had not been so soon; however, you may be assured that if any attempt be made to affect you by reason of any of your proceedings in Florida your friends here, and I as one of them, will state that you are ready to meet any charge in the same manner as if you had not resigned. Write to me when you receive this letter, in the manner above alluded to, without expressing any opinion, or reflection in regard to any one directly or indirectly—you are I believe on safe ground; make not any inimical to you. accept my best wishes for your health. Sincerely yours

¹ Philip P. Barbour was Speaker. His letter to Jackson, Feb. 9, 1822, was as follows: “I have received your letter, and in reply thereto, have to inform you, that I do not consider myself justified in laying it before the house; because it contains some imputations and reflections upon some of the members. If upon the receipt of this, you think proper to write another letter upon the subject, not liable to the objection above stated, and desire that it should be presented to the House, your request shall be complied with.”